

Message Text

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15
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01

ACDA-05 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 AID-05 OMB-01 /072 W
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R 181756Z DEC 75
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4026
INFO USMISSION USNATO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
SECDEF WASHDC
JCS WASHDC
USCINCEUR
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USCINCUSAFE
16TH AF TORREJON/CO

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: MARR, SP, US
SUBJ: US-SPANISH BASE NEGOTIATIONS--FOREIGN MINISTER AREILZA
TALKS TO THE PRESS

REF: MADRID 8771 (NOTAL)

1. FOREIGN MINISTER AREILZA'S REPORTED COMMENTS TO THE PRESS
IN PARIS REGARDING THE BASE NEGOTIATIONS AND OTHER RELATED PRESS
TREATMENT HERE GIVE AN IMPRESSION OF EXPECTATION OF A MORE
FORTHCOMING US ATTITUDE ONCE THE BASE NEGOTIATIONS RESUME.

2. AREILZA REPORTEDLY TOLD "LE MONDE" ON DEC 16 THAT THIS
WOULD BE AN APPROPRIATE TIME FOR A US GESTURE TOWARD SPAIN,
THAT "GENEROUS US ASSISTANCE" WOULD BE AN ACT OF JUSTICE.
"WHAT WE HAVE SIGNED IS A FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT WHICH IS
SUSCEPTIBLE TO CORRECTION, TO PERFECTING, NUMEROUS ACCOMMODATIONS
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ARE POSSIBLE WITHIN THAT AGREEMENT." THIS WAS GIVEN CONSIDERABLE

ATTENTION IN SPANISH PRESS. AT THE SAME TIME, THE NEW YORK CORRESPONDENT OF MADRID'S DAILY "INFORMACIONES" REPORTED A FEELING OF CERTAINTY IN WASHINGTON THAT THE FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT WILL BE RENEGOTIATED ALMOST COMPLETELY, INVOLVING GREATER US MILITARY ASSISTANCE FOR THE PURPOSE OF REINFORCING SPANISH MILITARY SUPPORT FOR THE MONARCHY.

3. FOLLOWING HIS MEETING WITH THE SECRETARY, AREILZA REPORTEDLY TOLD SPANISH REPORTERS: "I HAD A FULL AND SUBSTANTIVE MEETING IN WHICH WE SPOKE ABOUT RENEWAL OF THE AGREEMENT ON FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION WITH THE UNITED STATES." IN HIS AIRPORT STATEMENT UPON RETURN TO MADRID, AREILZA STATED: "SPANISH RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES ARE SO IMPORTANT THAT IT IS ALWAYS A MATTER OF SUBSTANCE, AND I WOULD SAY THAT IT IS NECESSARY FOR SPANISH FOREIGN POLICY THAT OUR POINTS OF VIEW WITH REGARD TO COOPERATION BE ALIGNED. BESIDES, AS YOU KNOW, A NEW AGREEMENT ON FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION WITH THE UNITED STATES IS BEING NEGOTIATED AND THAT WAS ONE OF THE FUNDAMENTAL THEMES OF MY CONVERSATION (WITH KISSINGER)."

4. COUPLED WITH THESE REPORTS IS A REPORT BY THE OFFICIAL SPANISH WIRE SERVICE, DATELINED DEC 17, WASHINGTON, STATING: "IN WASHINGTON CIRCLES IT WAS BEING SAID TODAY THAT KISSINGER IS VERY ANXIOUS TO DISCUSS THE NEW SPANISH-US AGREEMENT WITH THE GOVT OF SPAIN." THIS REPORT ADDS THAT THE SECRETARY WANTED VERY MUCH TO COME TO SPAIN AFTER THE NATO MINISTERIAL BUT DELAYED HIS TRIP SINCE THE GOVT OF SPAIN WAS NEW AND TIME WAS NEEDED TO PREPARE FOR FRUITFUL CONVERSATIONS.

5. AS REPORTED REFTEL, SPECULATION IN ADVANCE OF AREILZA'S TRIP TO PARIS THAT THE BASE NEGOTIATIONS WOULD BE REOPENED IN A WAY PROVIDING FOR A BETTER DEAL FOR SPAIN WAS BALANCED BY A NATIONAL MOVEMENT WIRE SERVICE (PYRESA) REPORT ATTRIBUTING TO WELL-INFORMED SOURCES IN MADRID THE COMMENT THAT AREILZA, WHEN HE SAW THE SECRETARY, DID NOT INTEND TO INTRODUCE SUBSTANTIVE CHANGES IN WHAT HAD ALREADY BEEN NEGOTIATED BUT FAVORED EARLY COMPLETION OF THE NEGOTIATIONS.
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